

things that say that you're going to be independent and do as much as you can to support your family as well as yourself. I think that's what we do when we say we will no longer support this program. We are promoting all the kinds of behaviors everybody sits around and says we shouldn't be doing. I would also remind you to think about what is our responsibility? One of the primary purposes of a tax base is to respond to the needs of those people who don't have sufficient resources in order to live independently, in order to care for their family, in order to be as productive as their health allows them to be. I believe this is one of our fundamental responsibilities. And finally, let me end by saying we keep trying to fix this health care situation by eliminating health care for those people that can't afford it and I know that the kinds of things I'm now going to talk about are long-term solutions, but it's extremely frustrating because one of the reasons they are long-term solutions is because there is so many barriers out there to try to make them happen immediately. Every time I come up with an idea that I think would be great, that would work right away, somebody says to me, yeah, but there's a federal law that says you can't do that. So it makes it difficult. But realize, folks, that many of these people are working but they are working at jobs, either because they are part time or otherwise, they are not getting health care coverage. They do not have available to them health care insurance and that is the broken part of our system and yet the way we are fixing it is by dumping on the people who can't get the health care, not by fixing that which is creating the problem. I think we need to reinstate this program because policy promotes the kinds of behaviors we all claim we support, independence, productivity. I think we should support it because it is our responsibility. As policymakers it is what our tax base is for. I think we should support it because we need to shift our focus to addressing the things that are broken in our system in terms of health care that are creating the problem. I would urge you to support this amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Senator Lynch, you're next. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Excuse me, I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker and everybody. I'd be glad to yield my time to Senator Rasmussen if she has some more things she would like to discuss with us.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Rasmussen.